

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 004339

42

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 RSC-01

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66603

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARP:SWBUCK

APPROVED BY: NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

ARA/?NC:JMAISTO

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R 091711Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 004339

E.O. : 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, YS, CO

SUBJ: ASSISTANCE TO AMCIT

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN THE FOLLOWING HUMANITARIAN CASE: THOMAS EDWARD FRANKLIN, AN AMERICAN TEACHER AT THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL IN KUWAIT, HAS BEEN IMPRISONED IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN (ADEN) SINCE EARLY JANUARY, 1973. ALTHOUGH ONLY AN INNOCENT TOURIST, FRANKLIN WAS GIVEN A 5 YEAR JAIL SENTENCE FOR ALLEGEDLY TAKING PHOTOS OF RESTRICTED AREAS. RECENTLY FRANKLIN LOST ONE OF HIS CONTACT LENSES. ACCORDING TO HIS MOTHER, FRANKLIN HAS IN THE PAST ORDERED REPLACEMENTS FROM AN OPTICAL COMPANY IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA CALLED LENSES CONTACTO. MRS. FRANKLIN DOES NOT HAVE A PRESCRIPTION NOR COMPANY'S ADDRESS, OTHER THAN IT WAS NEAR THE MUSEUM OF GOLD IN BOGOTA. HER SON ORDERED INITIAL SET OF LENSES I* SUMMER OF 1968 WHILE IN BOGOTA ON A YMCA EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH ILLINOIS STATE COLLEGE, NORMAL, ILLINOIS. SUBSEQUENTLY HE ORDERED REPLACEMENTS FROM THE COMPANY BY MAIL. THE COMPANY THEN OBTAINED THE GROUND LENSES IN GERMANY.

2. IF EMBASSY ABLE TO LOCATE OPTICAL COMPANY, REQUEST IT

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ORDER NEW SET OF LENSES ON FRANKLIN'S BEHALF AND FORWARD THEM

AND BILL TO DEPARTMENT, C/O STEPHEN W. BUCK, NEA/ARP, ROOM
6247A. KISSINGER

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NNN

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To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
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